



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**San Diego Public Library**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LA JOLLA/RIFORD BRANCH LIBRARY DISCUSSION FEATURES THE FIRST AMENDMENT**

*Ongoing Library Civic Programs to Foster Public Conversation about the Constitution*

**SAN DIEGO** – The San Diego Public Library will host *The First Amendment & the Right of the Conscience*, a lecture presented by Professor Rodney Smith of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law on Saturday, October 27, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at the La Jolla/Riford Branch Library, located at 7555 Draper Avenue in La Jolla. This program is presented in conjunction with the SDPL library project, *Searching for Democracy: A Public Conversation about the Constitution* sponsored by Cal Humanities.

*Searching for Democracy* brings together people from diverse backgrounds to attend and discuss the Constitution at programs including lectures, book discussions, films, digital stories, and performance. Young and old, rich and poor, new citizens and long-term residents are provided the opportunity to openly explore the understanding of our American heritage and citizenry. The endeavor will also afford individual library customers a greater understanding of the Library's vast collection of Constitution related titles and digital resources.

Professor Smith is Distinguished Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Sports Law and Policy at the Thomas Jefferson Law School. He is the author of numerous scholarly articles and is recognized for his scholarship in the freedom of religion and sports law areas, having published three books on public prayer and sports law. His talk is based on his forthcoming book *The Right of Conscience and the Meaning of the First Amendment* in which he argues that the First Amendment is intended to protect the right of conscience in all its various forms.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.gov](http://www.sandiegolibrary.gov).

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other.*

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